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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO**

FILE No. **100-1465**

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/19/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/29, 30; 12/1/44	REPORT MADE BY EDWARD E. WALLA bg
TITLE JOHN PITTMAN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continues to reside at 67 Pleasant Street and retains his position as Managing Editor of the PEOPLE'S WORLD newspaper. He is a member of the State Committee of the Communist Political Association and was elected Vice-president of the San Francisco County CPA. He is assigned as a member of the Fillmore Club and is active in speaking before various other clubs of the Party.

-P-

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent Raymond Richard Brackelsberg dated July 1, 1944 at San Francisco, California.

DETAILS:

Subject is considered a Key Figure in activities of the Communist Political Association in the San Francisco Field Division.

Mr. SAM CERELLI, Chief Clerk, Local Draft Board #100, San Francisco, advised that the subject resides at 67 Pleasant Street, San Francisco, and is still employed by the PEOPLE'S WORLD newspaper, 590 Folsom Street, San Francisco, California, which is a Communist controlled daily paper.

An article in the June 14, 1944 issue of the Daily People's World reflects that at the first convention of the newly formed California State Communist Political Association, the subject was elected to the State Committee. The September 19, 1944 issue reflects that the subject was also elected Vice-president of the San Francisco County organization of the Communist Political Association along with RUDIE LAMBERT, State CPA Labor Director, at the San Francisco County CPA Convention.

It was ascertained through SOURCE A that the subject

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attended the State Communist Party Convention as a Fraternal Delegate. This convention was held at San Francisco, May 7, 1944.

SOURCE B, who is very close to the subject, advised that the Subject's editorial policy in the PEOPLE'S WORLD was dictated by officials of the State CPA. SOURCE B related that shortly after Senator TRUMAN'S nomination for Vice-president, the subject was contacted by BILL SCHNEIDERMAN, State CPA President who demanded that an editorial appear immediately in the PEOPLE'S WORLD explaining that TRUMAN is a compromise candidate to get unity in the Party and that WALLACE was not betrayed. SOURCE B added that when Governor DEWEY was making campaign speeches, SCHNEIDERMAN again demanded that the subject attack every DEWEY speech in an editorial.

Confidential Informant SF 595 advised that the subject spoke at the meeting of the Richmond Victory Club in August, 1944. The topic of his speech was "The COMMUNIST MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."

It was ascertained through SOURCE C that the subject received an invitation to speak at Mills College, a prominent girls' college at Oakland, California. SOURCE C related that STEVE NELSON, President of the Alameda County CPA obtained this invitation for the Subject and instructed him that he should speak on the reasons for Red-Baiting in the Presidential campaign and show that it is a method of propaganda identical with that employed by HITLER. This informant stated that STEVE NELSON was in close contact with PITTMAN and at various times, suggested events which PITTMAN might use as a basis for his editorials.

SOURCE D advised that HARRY BRIDGES, West Coast CIO Labor Leader, requested the subject to assist him in drafting an inquiry of the Port Chicago Negro Mutiny case. BRIDGES requested the subject to write an editorial on this case so that pressure might be brought upon the Naval Authorities. SOURCE D related that RUDIE LAMBERT, State Communist Political Association Labor Director also requested the subject to write an editorial concerning this Negro Mutiny Case. It should be noted that during this Negro Mutiny Trial, the PEOPLE'S WORLD devoted a portion of its editorial page to editorials which denounced the Navy action taken during the Mutiny.

It was learned through SOURCE E that the Subject's NANCY PITTMAN, left the Subject and is presently residing at the LOUISE BRANSTEN, well known Communist. This informant stated the reason for separation is that the subject was "running around" FOX, People's World reporter.